



# Department of Justice

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## **ALLIANCE MAN SENTENCED FOR POLARIS BANK ROBBERY**

*41 months for the robbery; plus 7 years for brandishing shotgun*

COLUMBUS - Matthew Ryan Bevington, age 29, of Alliance, Ohio was sentenced in United States District Court here to 41 months imprisonment for bank robbery and ordered to serve seven additional years behind bars for brandishing a shotgun during the April 6, 2004 robbery of Bank One on Polaris Parkway in Columbus.

Gregory G. Lockhart, United States Attorney for the Southern District of Ohio; Stanley J. Borgia, Special Agent in Charge, Federal Bureau of Investigation, Cincinnati Field Division; and Columbus Police Chief James G. Jackson announced the sentence handed down March 2 by United States District Judge Edmund A. Sargus, Jr.

According to a statement of facts presented in court by the FBI, two armed, masked men entered the bank about 3 p.m. and ordered everyone to the floor in a "takeover" style robbery. One of the men, Bevington, remained in the lobby with a shotgun and covered employees and customers while the second man, James Kyle Kerr, of St. Louis, Missouri, went behind the counter and removed cash.

Once outside, witnesses saw the men get into a car, drive to a nearby restaurant, and park by a dumpster in the back of the restaurant. The men threw the clothing and the shotgun into the dumpster, then got back in the car and drove off.

Columbus Police detectives recovered the clothing and the shotgun and obtained DNA evidence from the clothes. The DNA matched that of Kerr. FBI agents questioned Kerr, who was in custody in Kansas City, Missouri for other robberies, and Kerr identified Bevington as his accomplice in the Columbus robbery.

FBI agents obtained a DNA sample from Bevington at his Akron-area home and it matched the DNA found on the clothes at the robbery.

"This sentence demonstrates that criminals who even show a firearm during their crime face even more severe penalties," Lockhart said.

Lockhart congratulated the cooperative investigation by agents and officers of the FBI and Columbus Police, and Assistant U.S. Attorney Deborah A. Solove, who prosecuted the case.

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